Benami Petrol Pumps in NCR

2489. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the news-item captioned, "Adulteration adds fuels to petrol business" which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 2nd March, 2002;

(b) whether it is a fact that benami petrol pumps spread across the National Capital Region are earning huge profits through this illegal trade; and

(c) if so, the details of strong steps being taken by Government to stop this adulterated fuel business in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No cases of benami operation of retail outlets in the National Capital Region have come to the notice of the Government.

(c) Steps such as blue dyeing of PDS Kerosene, periodical inspection of the retail outlets, introduction of tamper proof locking system for tanker trucks, special vigilance drives among other actions prescribed are regularly undertaken by the Oil Marketing Companies. Action is taken by the Companies against erring dealers under the provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines and/or Dealership Agreement.